

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
EMERGENCY MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2012
6:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Mayor Grant called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant, Councilmember Johnie L. Higgs, Sr, Councilmember Eugene Kennedy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, Acting City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk

2. MEETING TOPIC:

2.1. Legislative Breakfast

- Mayor Grant stated that we are the only municipality that puts on a legislative breakfast of this magnitude for our elected officials.
- It is noteworthy that we are able to communicate our legislative priorities that we hope to gain the support of the represented elected officials.
- He stated that we produced a package last year to each representative. If we give an overall grade on the response to the packet, it would be a D-.
- He stated that on the State level Senator Benson and Delegate Vaughn did introduce a bond bill that we did not get.
- He stated that we sent each person a follow-up letter regarding our request.
- He stated that most of them did not respond to our request
- He met with Debbie Tyner after the Breakfast regarding renaming a park.
- He stated that we had not heard from them outside of the meeting. They discussed cleaning up the fence line in Ward IV on Carrington Avenue. They were supposed to schedule a meeting with their Public Works Department and Mr. Thompson. To his knowledge this has not taken place.
- He stated that we did not have any items on the Federal Level.

- He stated that the State Representative grade would be maybe a “D”.
- He stated we are not going to issue a report card this year, but we will do so next year.
- We want them to get the idea that we are taking our priorities seriously.
- He stated that we are going to do things differently this year. We will not have any elected official speak.
- He stated that if we do the report card this year, the grades will be low.
- He stated that last year very few addressed the legislative priorities for the City.
- He stated that the staff works very hard on putting together the priorities for the City.
- He stated we pay federal, state and county taxes and we do not get the support needed from officials.
- He stated that this is the first year that we did not get the Community Development Block Grant. Our County Council did not stand up to ensure that resources come into the City.
- We have a legislative package that our staff has worked hard to ensure our priorities are outlined.
- The speakers at the breakfast will be the staff this year. He stated the Lt. Governor will be speaking, as it is protocol. The Department Heads will be speaking on their area in the packet.
- He stated that the City has grown expeditiously in the eight years. He stated that our surplus is the highest the City has ever seen.
- He stated that we have a consistent 3% growth every year.
- He stated that this is due to our partnership, the elected officials and staff.
- He stated that we will need to move our City forward starting this Thursday. He stated that we are not getting the support we need. Laurel and Bowie do not have legislative breakfast, but they are still getting resources in their city.
- He stated that we need to put our legislative packet on our website
- Mr. Ashton stated the layout of the packet will be the Mayor and Council President messages, Council Biographies.
- Mayor Grant wanted to know who will be giving the welcome address, and the invocation.
- Councilmember Higgs stated that he will do the Invocation and Councilwoman Stephenson will do the Welcome.
- Council President Porter will introduce the Lt. Governor and Councilmember Raynor will do the purpose of the breakfast.

- Council President Porter requested that the Council receive a copy of the program before Thursday, December 13, 2012.
- Mayor Grant stated that if the Council has a person they have been building a relationship with and they want to invite them to the Breakfast, please do so.
- Councilmember Higgs inquired about the Zoning statement. Mayor Grant stated that they said it wrong it should be permitting.
- Any individuals seeking business in the City should come to the City first. He stated that we need to strengthen our code.
- He stated that our standards are sub-par. We need to meet with our attorney and attorney of the constitution to be sure we aren't infringing on anyone rights.

ADJOURN-The meeting adjourned at 6:57p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham
City Clerk